General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 February 2002

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 128

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/56/655)*]

56/245. Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999 and 55/230 of 23 December 2000,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2000;[1]

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the programme of work of the Unit for 2001 and the preliminary listing of potential reports for 2002 and beyond,[2] as well as the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Unit on experience with the follow-up system on Joint Inspection Unit reports and recommendations;[3]

3. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit;[4]

4. *Takes note in particular* that, as noted in the preliminary listing of potential reports for 2002 and beyond and reaffirmed by the Chairman of the Unit, the preliminary listing is of a tentative nature and does not necessarily imply that the Unit is committed to taking up these subjects;

5. *Invites* the Unit to improve the presentation of the listing of potential reports for the following year and beyond by providing information on the source, including legislative basis, objectives, problems to be addressed, duration and expected date of completion, and to present such information before the final quarter of each year;

6. *Requests* the executive heads of participating organizations to observe fully the time frame for submitting their comments, as called for in article 11, paragraphs 4 (*d*) and (*e*), of the statute of the Unit;

---

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 34* and corrigendum (A/56/34 and Corr.1).

[2] A/56/84.

[3] A/56/356.

[4] A/56/135.

7. *Requests* the Unit to consider including in its reports, where possible, the comments of the participating organizations on its findings and recommendations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

8. *Stresses* the need for the Unit to place emphasis in its work on well-defined and timely items of high priority, identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions aimed at providing the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations;

9. *Stresses also* that the compliance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/16 and contained in the annual report of the Unit for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[5] is a responsibility of the Unit as a whole, and, in this regard, requests the Unit to exercise fully its collective wisdom in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the statute;

10. *Requests* the Chairman of the Unit, in accordance with article 18 of the statute, to ensure compliance by the Unit with the provisions of its statute as well as the internal standards, guidelines and procedures as approved by the Unit;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the other participating organizations to ensure that the Unit is provided with the information requested by it in due time, in accordance with article 6, paragraph 2, of the statute;

12. *Welcomes* the initial steps taken by the Unit with other external and internal oversight bodies of the United Nations system to develop interaction and intensify relations with a view to achieving better coordination among them with respect, in particular, to the oversight coverage and sharing of best practices, thus enhancing the impact of oversight activities as a whole and endeavouring to avoid duplication, and requests the Unit to report thereon, in the context of its report for 2001, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

13. *Requests* the executive heads of those participating organizations that have not yet done so to take the necessary steps to facilitate the consideration of and action on the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit,[5] and invites the legislative organs concerned to consider and act upon it;

14. *Requests* the Unit to submit, as part of its annual report, additional comments and recommendations on its experience with the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, focusing in particular on legislative actions and implementation of the approved recommendations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, including measures the Unit has taken to achieve a punctual and systematic follow-up of its recommendations as approved by the legislative organs of participating organizations;

15. *Decides* to review the current state of coordination and cooperation among the United Nations oversight bodies with a view to ensuring greater synergy and mutual complementarity in their joint efforts to improve the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations;

16. *Requests* that the Unit place more emphasis on the evaluation aspects of its work, in accordance with recommendation 63 contained in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and

---

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/52/34), annex I.

Financial Functioning of the United Nations,[6] as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986;

17. *Underlines* the fact that the evaluation function is envisaged in the statute of the Unit, and stresses the need for the Unit to pay special attention to the preparation of reports that are more evaluation-oriented;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the executive heads of the other participating organizations for their attention.

92nd plenary meeting
24 December 2001

[6] Ibid., *Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49* (A/41/49).